McGarry Bair PC Intellactual Property Counselors

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PHONE

DATE 8 APRIL 2003

NE 10/065,016

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clos E BAIR 616-742-3573 jel@ucgamybair.

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McGarry Bair LLP

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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETE FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no parsons are required to reapond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMS control number. Complete If Known **FEE TRANSMITTAL** 10/065,016 FAX RECEIVED **Application Number** Filing Date September 12, 2002 for FY 2003 Olivier Boireau First Named Inventor APR 0 8 2003 Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision. Lourdes C. Cruz **Examiner Name** TECHNOLOGY CENTER 28 0 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT 71522-2

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SUBMITTED BY							(Complete (# applicable)	
Name (Prini/Type) J	loel 🖺 Bair	Registration No. 33,356 Telephone (616) 742-3500						
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be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 GFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will very depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Olivier Boireau

For:

INTEGRATED CIRCUIT PACKAGE AND PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD

ARRANGEMENT

Serial No.:

10/065,016

Examiner:

Lourdes C. Cruz

Filed:

September 12, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2841

Atty. Docket: 71522-2

Confirmation No.: 5731

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Washington, DC 20231:

Date: March: 2003 Andrea R. Wolters

(hype or print name of person certifying)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.102(d), Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to make the above-referenced application, Serial No. 10/065,016, special for the reason that an infringing device is presently being made, offered for sale, sold, or used in the United States. This petition is accompanied by the requisite statement in support hereof, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(h).

The references most closely related to the subject matter of the claims are U.S. Patent No. 4,994,902 to Okahashi et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,923,540 to Asada et al. Copies are attached. The U.K. Patent Office cited these references during examination of the priority application in the U.K., which application has claims substantially similar in scope to those of the present application.

Application No. 10/065,01. Filed: September 12, 2002 Page 2 of 4 Examiner: L. Cruz Art Unit: 2841

Okahashi '902 discloses a random set of pin locations (as illustrated in FIG. 6 and FIG. 7) for ground and power supply pins. There is no disclosure of inner portions and outer portions of an integrated circuit package. If it were to be interpreted by a person having ordinary skill in the art that the three rows and columns may be understood to comprise an outer portion, a middle portion and an inner portion, it is noted that one clock signal is located on an outer portion (outside row/column) and one clock signal located on a middle portion (of three rows/columns). The focus of Okahashi '902 is to link layers of multi-layer packages by arranging similar contacts/ pins to coincide vertically to higher layers, and is not remotely concerned with the difficulty in routing paths to/from the printed circuit board to the respective IC pins.

Okahashi '902 discloses a random distribution of power supply contacts, with (only by chance and not design) a minority of power supply contacts being located on an extremity of the IC. Thus, Okahashi '902 fails to disclose a majority of power supply contacts on an extremity of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board. The feature of providing a majority of power supply contacts being located on an extremity in the present invention provides the advantage of enabling de-coupling capacitors to be located as close as possible to the power supply contacts. This minimizes track length and therefore resistance to the power supply contact, as described at paragraph 26 of the specification.

Furthermore, Okahashi '902 discloses one clock pin on an outer row/column and one clock pin on a middle row/column. However, it is noteworthy that the patent teaches, at col. 2 lines 44-45, that the clock signals can appear anywhere (so long as they are substantially matched on other 'vertical' layers for the co-processor!) But, regarding clock signals, one ordinarily skilled in the art is only taught by Okahashi '902 to surround clock signals by V_{ss} or V_{ce} fixed potential signals to keep them away from data (variable potential) signals. "This arrangement causes the fixed potential pins to shield electromagnetically the surroundings of the clock signal". Thus, Okahashi '902 fails to disclose a majority of clock contact points on an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board. The feature of providing a majority of clock contact points on an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board provides the advantage of enabling clock generation components to be located as close as

Application No. 10/065,01. Filed: September 12, 2002 Page 3 of 4

Examiner: L. Cruz Art Unit: 2841

possible to the IC's clock contacts, as described at paragraph 25 of the specification. This minimizes track length, and therefore undesired parasitic capacitance and resistance, to the clock contact pins, as described at paragraph 27 of the specification.

Furthermore, Okahashi '902 discloses data contact points along one side of an IC, but specifically being arranged distal from the clock contact points. Thus, Okahashi '902 fails to disclose a majority of data contact points on an inner side of an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board. The feature of providing a majority of data contact points on an inner side of an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board provides the advantage of allowing relatively easy access in routing paths to/from the data points, as described at paragraph 35 of the specification.

Asada '540 discloses all power supply contacts randomly located on the outside of ground contact points. Indeed, the location of the power supply contact in FIG. 9B is the same as FIG. 1 (see col. 9 line 63 to col. 10 line 3) and is therefore NOT on the extremity. Thus, Asada '540 fails to disclose a majority of power supply contacts on an extremity of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board. As mentioned above, the feature of providing a majority of power supply contacts being located on an extremity provides the advantage of enabling de-coupling capacitors to be located as close as possible to the power supply contacts. This minimizes track length and therefore resistance to the power supply contact, as described at paragraph 26 of the specification.

Furthermore, Asada '540 discloses nothing about specific locations of clock signal pins, save that pins generally can be located outside and/or inside a set of ground contact points. Thus, Asada '540 does not disclose a majority of clock contact points on an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board. The feature of providing a majority of clock contact points on an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board provides the advantage of enabling clock generation components to be located as close as possible to the IC's clock contacts, as described on page 13 line 23-29 of the specification. This minimizes track length, and therefore undesired parasitic capacitance and resistance, to the clock contact pins, as described at paragraph 25 of the specification.

Furthermore Asada '540 discloses nothing about specific locations of clock signal pins, save that the pins generally can be located outside and/or inside a set of ground

Application No. 10/065,01. Filed: September 12, 2002 Page 4 of 4

Examiner: L. Cruz Art Unit: 2841

contact points. Thus, Asada '540 fails to disclose a majority of data signal contacts on an inner side of an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board. As mentioned above, the feature of providing a majority of data contact points on an inner side of an outer portion of an integrated circuit package or printed circuit board provides the advantage of allowing relatively easy access in routing paths to/from the data points, as described at paragraph 35 of the specification.

Respectfully submitted, Olivier Boireau

Dated: / March 2003

Joel/E. Bair, Reg. No. 33,356

McGarry Bair PC

171 Monroe Avenue, NW, Suite 600 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

616-742-3500

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UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023 I WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023 I

Paper No. 230403

McGARRY BAIR PC 171 Monroe Avenue, N.W. Suite 600 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

APR 2 5 2003

In re Application of Olivier Boireau Application No. 10/065,016

Filed: September 12, 2002

For: INTEGRATED CIRCUIT PACKAGE AND PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD ARRANGEMENT DECISION ON PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d), filed April 8, 2003, via facsimile transmission¹, to make the above-identified application special.

The petition requests that the above-identified application be made special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in the Manual for Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.), section 708.02, item II: Infringement.

A grantable petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d), M.P.E.P. § 708.02, item II, must be accompanied by the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h) and allege facts under oath or declaration to show, or indicate why it is not possible to show, that:

- 1. there is an infringing device or product actually on the market or method in use,
- 2. that a rigid comparison on the alleged infringing device, product or

¹ It is indicated with the transmission of this petition that it is a copy of a petition originally filed by facsimile transmission on March 17, 2003. The petition is accepted as being filed on March 17, 2003, via a certificate of transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) as indicated on the copy of the petition.

method with the claims of the application was made,

- 3. that the claims are unquestionably infringed, and
- 4. that a careful search of the prior art was made or that applicant has good knowledge of the pertinent prior art.

The petition satisfies the above-listed requirements for special status.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application is being forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.

If the examiner can make this application special without prejudice to any possible interfering applications, and she should make a rigid search for such, she is authorized to do so for the next action. Should the application be rejected, the application will not be considered special for the subsequent action unless the applicant promptly makes a bona fide effort to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to have an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

If the examiner finds any interfering application for the same subject matter, she should consider such application simultaneously with this application and should state in the official letter of such application that she is taking it out of its turn because of possible interference.

Should an appeal be taken in this application or should this application becomes involved in an interference, consideration of the appeal and the interference will be expedited by all Patent and Trademark Office officials concerned, contingent likewise upon diligent prosecution by the applicant.

After allowance, this application will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. § 1309.

The petition is granted to the extent indicated.

Hien H. Phan, Special Program Examiner

Technology Center 2800

Semiconductors, Electrical and Optical

Systems and Components